

From: LUCAS
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft settlement

I urge the court to accept the settlement agreed upon by the Justice Department and the reasonable half of the states attorneys general.

While I firmly believe that the entire case against Microsoft is fraudulent, and the decision of the appeals court was not based on any logical understanding of harm to consumers, the proposed settlement is the LEAST UNJUST way of ending this travesty of justice.

The principle complainants seem to be Microsoft's jealous competitors who, losing customer support for their technically inferior products, used the political support their contributions had won them with the Clinton Justice Department and the willing assistance of an utterly biased Judge to try and reverse the wishes of consumers. Anyone who ever used (or attempted to use) Netscape understands that Netscape failed because it was INFERIOR, utterly BUG RIDDEN and CUMBERSOME to use. Microsoft simply offered a significantly better solution to internet connection, and made it part of the operating system where it belongs.

It seems too late for common sense to prevail in this overly politicized version of judicial "theater", so the settlement is the next best solution.

But the Justice Department's Microsoft mess does follow the pattern of useless legal busywork the lightweights in the Anti Trust Division seem compelled to repeatedly pursue, causing immense harm to American consumers. Will we ever recover from the damage caused to the economy by Judge Green's 20 year micro management of the telephone company (and the ever more costly bungling of the successor demon, the FCC), or the Justice Department's fruitless 10 year jihad against IBM. The single most important thing Attorney General Ashcroft could do to help the economy would be a top-to-bottom housecleaning of the political ideologues in the Anti Trust division.

It's high time America came first.

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